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If you would like more information about purchasing items through the state or would like assistance in applying for state contracts, please visit www.michigan.gov/dmb State Senator

March 30, 2004

VALDE GARCIA

Serving the 22nd District

Shiawassee-Livingston-southern Ingham counties

GOVERNMENT IN FOCUS: Local Municipalities

State offers purchasing option for local governments via Internet.

The state of Michigan has introduced a web site that will help local units of government save tax dollars. The savings will be realized by purchasing needed products through companies that have already been contracted by the state.

By utilizing these companies, municipalities will have the opportunity to purchase items in bulk quantities, reducing the cost of goods that would have been purchased in smaller, more expensive units. Utilizing preexisting contracts also helps cut the time spent researching the products that city's need.

To date, there are nearly 400 different products available for purchase through the new site. It includes items ranging from road salt to lighting, busses to cellular equipment and much more! To learn more about these contracts, please visit www.michigan.gov/mideal.

BUDGET UPDATE:

The senate is expected to pass various budget bills this week. Please visit www.michiganlegislature.org and enter the following bill numbers to learn if the bills passed and how legislators voted.

SB 1062--Community Colleges

SB 1063--Department of Community Health

SB 1064--Corrections

SB 1065--K-12 Education

SB 1066--Department of Environmental Quality

SB 1067--Higher Education

SB 1068--Department of Natural Resources

SB 1069--School Aid